

Native Plants with Good to Excellent Erosion Control Properties

Shrubs and Small Trees

Common Name	Botanical Name	Deciduous/ Evergreen	Mature Height (ft)	Water Requirements ²	Light Requirements ³	Soil Requirements	Rooting Habit	Recommended Spacing (ft)	Erosion Control Quality
Vine Maple	<i>Acer circinatum</i>	Deciduous	15+	Moist	Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Any Soil - Tolerates shallow flooding in growing season	Moderate	8 +	Excellent
Oceanspray	<i>Holodiscus discolor</i>	Deciduous	10+	Dry-Moist	Full Sun, Sun/Shade	Any Soil - Tolerates shallow flooding in growing season	Moderate	4+	Excellent
Willow	<i>Salix</i> spp.	Deciduous	40	Dry-Wet	Full Sun	Any Soil - Tolerates shallow flooding in growing season	Moderately Deep	6+	Excellent
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpos albus</i>	Deciduous	4	Dry-Moist	Full Sun, Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Any Soil - Tolerates shallow flooding in growing season	Shallow	2+	Excellent
Rose	<i>Rosa</i> spp.	Deciduous	6	Moist	Sun/Shade	Any Soil - Prefers Rich Soils	Shallow	3+	Good
Salmonberry	<i>Rubus spectabilis</i>	Deciduous	8	Moist	Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Any Soil	Shallow	4+	Good
Salal	<i>Gualtheria shallon</i>	Evergreen	3	Dry-Moist	Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Any Soil - Tolerates shallow flooding in growing season	Shallow	2+	Good
Oregon Grape	<i>Mahoria</i> spp.	Evergreen	6	Dry-Moist	Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Any Soil	Shallow	2+	Good

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Red Huckleberry	<i>Vaccinium parvifolium</i>	Deciduous	6	Dry-Moist	Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Slightly Acid	Shallow	3+	Good
Evergreen Huckleberry	<i>Vaccinium ovatum</i>	Evergreen	6	Dry-Moist	Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Slightly Acid	Shallow	3+	Excellent
Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i>	Deciduous	12	Moist	Full Sun, Sun/Shade	Slightly Acid	Moderately Shallow	10+	Excellent
Trees									
Oregon White Oak	<i>Quercus garryana</i>	Deciduous	60	Dry-Moist	Full Sun	Any Soil, Tolerates Sandy Soil	Deep, Extensive	40+	Good
Grand Fir	<i>Abies grandis</i>	Evergreen/ Conifer	200	Moist	Full Sun, Sun/Shade	Any Soil	Moderate	30+	Good
Douglas Fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Evergreen/ Conifer	200	Dry-Moist	Full Sun, Sun/Shade	Any Soil	Moderately Shallow	20+	Good
Big Leaf Maple	<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	Deciduous	100	Dry-Moist	Full Sun	Any Soil, Tolerates Rocky Soil	Shallow, Wide	40+	Excellent
Western Hemlock	<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>	Evergreen/ Conifer	200	Moist	Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Rich, Slightly Acidic Soil	Shallow	20+	Good
Sitka Spruce	<i>Picea sitchensis</i>	Evergreen/ Conifer	200	Wet-Moist	Sun/Shade	Slightly Acid	Variable, Depending on Soil	20+	Good
Pacific Yew	<i>Taxus brevifolia</i>	Evergreen/ Conifer	40	Wet-Moist	Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Deep, Gravelly Soil	Deep	20+	Excellent
Western Red Cedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	Evergreen/ Conifer	200	Wet-Moist	Sun/Shade	Any Soil	Shallow	20+	Good
Pacific Madrone	<i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	Evergreen	90	Dry	Full Sun, Sun/Shade	Coarse Soil	Shallow, Extensive	15+	Excellent
Willow	<i>Salix</i> spp.	Deciduous	40	Dry-Wet	Full Sun	Any Soil - Tolerates shallow flooding in growing season	Moderately Deep	6+	Excellent
Western White Pine	<i>Pinus monticola</i>	Evergreen/ Conifer	120	Moist	Full Sun, Sun/Shade	Any Soil, Prefers slightly Acid	Deep	30+	Good

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Shore Pine	<i>Pinus contorta</i>	Evergreen/ Conifer	120	Moist	Full Sun, Sun/Shade	Any Soil, Tolerates Sandy Soil	Moderately Deep	20+	Good
Herbaceous Plants¹									
Sword Fern	<i>Polystichum munitum</i>	Evergreen	4	Moist-Wet	Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Slightly Acid	Shallow	2+	Fair
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera</i> spp.	Deciduous	Climbing	Moist	Full Sun, Sun/Shade	Any Soil	Shallow- Moderate	2+	Fair
Bracken Fern	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Deciduous	8	Moist	Full Sun, Sun/Shade, Full Shade	Slightly Acid	Shallow	3+	Fair
Native Grasses	Various Species	Evergreen	Low	Variable	Variable	Variable	Shallow- Moderate	N/A	Fair
<p>¹ These herbaceous plants are included, in order to offer the gardener more aesthetic options, though their erosion control rating is only fair. Many other attractive, non-invasive plants can be found at: http://www.invasivespeciescoalition.org/GardenPlants/Garden%20Wise</p> <p>²Water Requirements: Dry - Once Established, tolerates dry soil conditions during the growing season Moist - Requires moist soil throughout the growing season Wet - Tolerates saturated soil year-round</p> <p>³Light Requirements: Full Sun - Requires sun throughout the day Sun/Shade - Requires shade for about half the day Full Shade - Requires shade throughout the day</p>									

This document was produced by Snohomish County Surface Water management. The information contained in the above guide was synthesized from the Washington State Department of Ecology publications 93-30 - Slope Stabilization and Erosion Control Using Vegetation and 93-31 - Vegetation Management: A Guide for Puget Sound Bluff Property Owners. These documents can be requested from the Washington State Department of Ecology. This guide is intended only as a reference. Snohomish County Surface Water Management does not guarantee the accuracy of all information. Each property is unique and slope stabilization using vegetation may not be a viable option in all cases. In cases of severe slide risk a geotechnical expert should be consulted. For more information contact Mike Tillotson at Snohomish County Surface Water Management: (425) 388-3463 x4573 or michael.tillotson@snoco.org